

(Manchester)
Leicester, June 11, 1860.

Dear friend Webb -

Following
Friends advise me to send the ~~following~~
certificate to you for publication in the ^{Anti-Slavery} Advocate,
and they suggest that you may get it inserted
in some other journals, & perhaps in the S. S.
Reporter, the British Friend, & and in the
Daily News. ^{or attention} What amount of circulation

the book has had in y^r. Country I have no
means of knowing. It is a small, neat 18mo.
of 189 pp. published by Sampson Low, Son, & Co. in
1859; & and "the right of translation reserved"!!

Defamation.

The authoress is a Miss Bird; of the Scotch Church,
I believe; her father is a Clergyman of the English
Church; - and she is, I have understood, a niece
of the Archbishop of Canterbury. & It so happened
that she passed several weeks in the family of a
friend ~~brother~~ of mine ~~in Dorchester~~ near Boston, where
I saw her once or twice. None of his family sup-
posed she would so grossly caricature the Anti-
Slavery Meetings as she has done in her book, & much
less that she w^d so utterly falsify Wendell Phillips
or any other person.

My ^{friend} attention was
first called to the passage by a lady of ~~Firmingham~~
~~a cousin of mine~~ who knew of Miss Bird's
partial acquaintance with me, & of her intimacy
in my ~~brother's~~ ^{friend's} family. It was to satisfy her
that I drew up the certificate of wh. the foregoing
is a copy, & obtained such signatures to it as I
conveniently could. The original goes ~~to~~ to
~~Firmingham~~ ^{England}, and if you think proper to give
publicity to the copy, we shall feel obliged to you.

By the same steamship which conveys
this I forward to you a small box containing

1. About 180 copies of the Annual Report of
the American Anti-Slavery Society for the year
ending May 1, 1859. [It was against my own
judgment that this report was printed separately
from the report for 1859-60, which is still in
course of preparation; but others of the Comtee.
thought it sh^d. appear without loss of time. But
reports ought to have been ready & finished by the
1st May of this year, - when it was my purpose to
publish both in one, which w^d have made an
admirable history of the last two stirring years. But
C.C. Burleigh, who is preparing it, has found the work
far more laborious than he anticipated, and by
postponing ^{the writing} to a too late period in the year has
disappointed us sadly.] 2. A very considerable number
of Standards, collected at our office in part, but still more at
the St. Office in New York, towards completing your file. [I
wish now you would send me a list of the numbers yet
wanting]. - Whether I put in the box some copies of
the Report for the years 1857, and 1858, I do not know.
I intended to do so, but finding the box was not going to hold
all I designed to send, I laid aside a portion, and cannot
now remember if, among those actually sent, were any
copies of that Report (2 years in one.) If there be any, I wish
you would reserve ~~one~~ copy for Mary Estlin and send it to her by
first opportunity. - I send the box, as before, to
the care of S. R. Graves. I have not written to him
on the subject; - perhaps you had better notify him
at once, on the receipt of this, to look out for the box.

Of the Report itself (for Year ending May '59) I feel that I cannot speak too highly. I think, in reading it, you will not fail to be deeply and truly interested, - not simply because the subject itself is one that commands yr. interest, but from the thorough & admirable way in which Burleigh (whose Mss. required but few amendments on passing thro' the Exec. Com.'s hands) has treated it. Now we want it got into the hands of the persons in G. B.ⁿ and Ireland who, in your judgment, will best appreciate it, be most sure to read it, and in whose hands it will be the most likely to do good, I need not suggest names. You know the A. S. friends - you know the leading men and journals, - and the honorable women, - all of whom are entitled to copies. The expense of the box, & its distribution, is of course ours. - The Steamer's freight charge I have paid, as you will see by the enclosed Receipt of the Agents in Boston. -

I hope that Dr. Palmer is regularly receiving the nos. of "Zion's Herald". The Anti-Slavery Methodists are again defeated, - not getting the requisite two-thirds to carry the desired change in their Discipline.

— Recurring to your note of Dec. 6.th last, I find the work you therein mention as so grossly defamatory of the American Abolitionists is the identical one concerning which I have sent the certificate! I was not at all aware of it when I was getting the names, nor until within these few minutes. It seems then that you have seen the book, or some notices of it, &

P.S. 2^o. The duplicate lost - Memorandum, & the nos. of Standard required for your file, has just turned up. It was in an envelope of one of your letters. You need not send another.

P.S. I have omitted some of the little expunctions you have given me for a few (say or more) mostly past. If I have, may I repeat any such. I shall have more true view, I expect.

Ms. B. 1. 6 v. 1, p. 28

will of course be able to decide at once upon the utility of publishing it.

Our Cause, ~~the~~ and the Cause of Free and Courageous Speech & Action, ~~the~~ have lost a host in Theodore Parker. Oh, his death is very grievous, - a terrible blow. But his own words from Santa Cruz, a year ago, in anticipation of his death, are a great comfort now. A noble, brave worker he was; with a tender heart, alive to all suffering & wrong. The little bigots among us ill conceal their joy at his departure; but the large & generous souls, of all classes & denominations, render their respectful and grateful tributes to his memory. It is pitiable to see the living apes kick the dead lion, but they do the best they know, and may be easily pardoned in view of their feebleness and cowardice. I think you will read with satisfaction the addresses made at the New England Anti-Slavery Convention upon the resolutions offered in his memory. -

I am again in the country, for a respite from office work. My health is uncertain, & far from good, but I hope to recruit during the summer. - I am sorry that you are not to see Garrison this summer, in all human probability. But it is pretty certain that Miss Mattie Griffith, the fearless and noble Kentucky girl, who set free the slaves left her (all her living,) and for conscience sake stepped from affluence into poverty, will be in England before many weeks. She will, in all private circles, most worthily and charmingly and effectively represent our cause. - My best regards to all of family, including Richard. Ever truly, Yrs. Saml. May, Jr.